

Letter from the Editor



Are you familiar with the story of stone soup? We have been thinking about stone soup and Brookline lately. This version is from The DailyOM.

“A traveler comes into a town beset by famine. The inhabitants try to discourage the traveler from staying, fearing he wants them to give him food. They tell him in no uncertain terms that there’s no food anywhere to be found. The traveler explains that he doesn’t need any food and that, in fact, he was planning to make a soup to share with all of them. The villagers watch suspiciously as he builds a fire and fills a cauldron with water. With great ceremony, he pulls a stone from a bag and drops the stone into the pot of water. He sniffs the brew extravagantly and exclaims how delicious stone soup is. As the villagers begin to show interest, he mentions how good the soup would be with just a little cabbage in it. A villager brings out a cabbage to share. This episode repeats itself until the soup has cabbage, carrots, onions, and beets—indeed, a substantial soup that feeds everyone in the village.”

Stone soup is about sharing, and not just sharing food. It’s also about sharing our time and our talents. Maybe all you can share is an hour; you can pick up a lot of litter in one hour. What’s important is the sharing. We share with the community when we pick up litter instead of walking over it. We share with the community when we decide to buy our hummus at **Pitaland**, bread at **Party Cake** or cookies at **Kribel’s** instead of the supermarket. We share with the community when we offer to help at the **Brookline Christian Food Pantry** or **Meals on Wheels**. We share with the community when we call 911 to report someone loitering in the neighborhood.

It’s about pitching in or lending a hand rather than standing at the window watching. That’s what the villagers were doing. They were watching and holding tight to what they had. The villager with the onion wouldn’t have had a satisfying meal by himself, and the homeowner’s picture perfect house doesn’t have much value when it’s on a litter covered street. We are in this together. When budgets are being slashed to the bone, we need everyone to help. Now more than ever Brookline needs your small contribution so we can make a big difference in our community.



CENTURY CLEANERS

1200 Brookline Blvd.
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412-561-6020

Monday - Friday 8:00AM to 6:00PM
Saturday 7:00AM to 2:00PM

If you take a walk down the Boulevard, you will find that the business district doesn’t end at **The Cannon** even though many of us never venture beyond that point. **Century Cleaners** at the corner of Brookline Boulevard and Merrick Avenue is one of the businesses you will discover. **Paul Frye** worked in sales for a major company until he decided he wanted to travel



less. That’s when he switched careers. “I guess you could say I still travel since I commute everyday from Greensburg.” Paul’s family is in the dry cleaning business in the Greensburg area so a dry cleaning business wasn’t a leap into unknown territory. Paul found his new venture in Brookline because he wanted a business where he would also own the building.



Century Cleaners does retail and wholesale dry cleaning. In addition to standard dry cleaning, **Century Cleaners** will clean leather and suede. They launder shirts. Also, they have a take down and rehang drapery service.

What really sets them apart according to manager **Lisa Corcoran** is their same day service and next day service. It’s harder to find this service today. Remember **Century Cleaners** when you need it dry cleaned, and you need it cleaned fast!

-Pamela Grabowski
-Photos by Catia Fath



SUSTAINING FRIENDS

Your donations keep us in print. Please continue to support us. We can provide a donation box and make monthly collections. Become a sustaining friend of **The Brookline**. We will thank you in the newsletter.

Donations thru September 2011:

Cannon Coffee - \$102.25

Kribel's Bakery - \$515.55 

A Boss - \$25.47

Hideaway Mini Mart - \$5.00

*****ADVERTISING RATES*****

Standard ads are a width of 3.75 inches. We charge by the height of the ad at \$12.00 per inch. This is an example of a one inch ad space. Remember ad graphics and artwork are free! Contact **Pamela Grabowski** 412-343-2859 or mnp.grabowski@verizon.net for more information.

*****CLASSIFIED ADS *****

Price is \$4 per month. Payment required before publication. You can submit by snail mail, phone or email. See sample ad below.

SAMPLE CLASSIFIED AD

SAMPLE of a \$4 Ad - Item for sale. Apt for rent. House for sale. Lost pet. Put your ad in **The Brookline**.

Snail Mail: The Brookline, PO Box 96136, Pittsburgh, PA 15226

Phone: 412-343-2859

Email: mnp.grabowski@verizon.net

**We have over
1,375 readers.**

THE BROOKLINE PAST ISSUES

Clint Burton has archived past issues of **The Brookline** at www.brooklineconnection.com.

The Brookline Staff

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Your \$10 annual membership in SPDC supports projects like Jacob-Whited, DogiPots and **The Brookline**. Join today.

The Brookline by email is in **FULL COLOR!**

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THE BROOKLINE

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Brookline Christian Food Bank	412-344-8451
Carnegie Library	412-561-1003
Councilwoman Natalia Rudiak	412-255-2142
Dollar Energy/Columbia Gas Caps	
Processed at St. Marks - Cathy	412-343-9575
Meals-on-Wheels	412-343-8144
Mini-Bus	412-344-4222
Representative Chelsa Wagner	412-343-2094
Senator Wayne Fontana	412-344-2551

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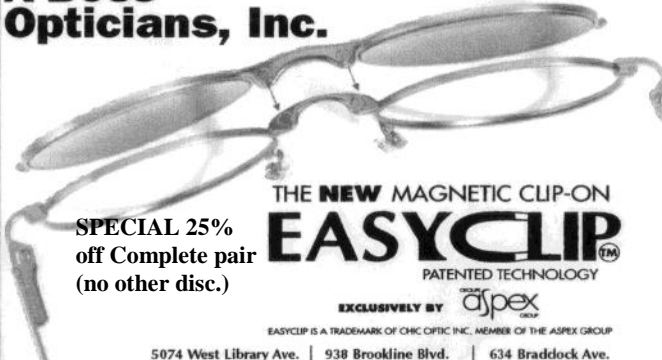


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We want to hear from you. Send your questions or comments by email, phone or mail. Deadline for December is November 12. January's deadline is December 12.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: thebrookline@brookline-pgh.org or

mnp.grabowski@verizon.net

Telephone: 412-343-2859

Mail: **The Brookline**, PO Box 96136, Pittsburgh, PA 15226.

Pick up **The Brookline** at a Boulevard merchant. Look for "**The Brookline** Available Here" sign in the window.

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HUNTING FOR A PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN IS NO GAME

It's that time of year again. "Open season" is right around the corner for the Medicare Part D prescription drug plan. Hunting down the best plan for you is no game. Newly eligible Medicare beneficiaries, and current beneficiaries who are considering changes to their Medicare Part D plan, should mark their calendars for October 15. The "open season" will run from October 15 to December 7.

The Medicare Part D prescription drug program is available to all Medicare beneficiaries to help with the costs of medications. Joining a Medicare prescription drug plan is voluntary, and participants pay an additional monthly premium for the coverage.

While all Medicare beneficiaries can participate in the prescription drug program, some people with limited income and resources also are eligible for "Extra Help" to pay for monthly premiums, annual deductibles, and prescription co-payments. The *Extra Help* is worth about \$4,000 a year.

To figure out whether you are eligible for the *Extra Help*, Social Security needs to know your income and the value of any savings, investments, and real estate (other than the home you live in). To qualify, you must be receiving Medicare and have:

- Income not over \$16,335 for an individual or \$22,065 for a married couple living together. Even if your annual income is higher, you still may be able to get some help with monthly premiums, annual deductibles, and prescription co-payments. Some examples where your income may be higher include if you or your spouse:
 - Support other family members who live with you;
 - Have earnings from work; or
 - Live in Alaska or Hawaii; and
- Resources not over \$12,640 for an individual or \$25,260 for a married couple living together. Resources include such things as bank accounts, stocks, and bonds. We do not count your house or car as resources.

You can complete an easy-to-use online application for *Extra Help* at www.socialsecurity.gov. Go to the Medicare tab on the top of the page. Then go to "Apply For Extra Help With Medicare Prescription Plan Costs." To apply for the *Extra Help* by phone or have an application mailed to you, call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) and ask for the *Application for Extra Help with Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Costs* (SSA-1020).

And if you would like more information about the Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Program itself, visit www.medicare.gov or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227; TTY 1-877-486-2048).

So this open season (October 15 to December 7), after you track down the perfect prescription drug plan for you, hunt for something that could put about \$4,000 in your pocket — bag the best Medicare prescription drug plan for you and see if you qualify for the *Extra Help* through Social Security.

-Patricia Thibault
Social Security District Manager



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THE MEDICINE
SHOPPE YET?**



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FREE EMAIL AT THE LIBRARY

You can get a free email account at Carnegie Library. Stop in and ask about setting up an email account. A library staff member will assist you.



SENATOR WAYNE FONTANA

As I write this, much of the conversation in Brookline is about the Boulevard project, the re-opening of the **Mazza Pavilion** and the effort to involve the community in charting the course for its neighborhood business district(s). Brookline has been fortunate to have such a strong and vital business district that has sustained itself in this uncertain economy, but there is also much opportunity to grow and create even more in our community.

Of course, to ensure a vital business district, there must also be a strong economy and confidence that a business can flourish and grow. Families need to feel secure, small businesses need to flourish, students need skills to be marketable, and young women and minorities need to not lose hope. It is no secret that the number one issue among my constituents is the lack of job creation and the uncertainty that the current economic climate has imposed on many peoples' lives.

I continue to work with my colleagues in Harrisburg to find ideas that will spur job creation, stabilize the economy, and instill confidence in those who do the hiring. More than a half million Pennsylvanians are out of work. There is a tremendous amount of uncertainty undermining our economic recovery. We should clear the agenda and act on those items that can create jobs. As I've said many times before, each and every item before us should be looked at through the "jobs lens."

While I continue to advocate and fight for policies that help create jobs in our region and throughout the Commonwealth, I want my constituents to be aware of the employers that have jobs open **RIGHT NOW**. Looking for the right opportunity is challenging and time-consuming and can be frustrating. Many current job seekers have families and other responsibilities that make it harder to spend the necessary time searching for the right job. It is why I have taken the opportunity to pull information together for you about available resources and actual job openings.

Please visit my website, particularly the Media Center page, to view previous editions of the News & Views where specific opportunities have been provided for you in an effort to make the job search easier for you. In addition to job postings, there is also information on training and other resources that you may want to consider to improve your opportunities. Don't have access to a computer? Then please stop in my office to get a hard copy of the listings and information.

Please know that I am continuing to do all I can to make sure the list of opportunities grows in the coming weeks and months and will provide you with as much information as I can. I am committed to doing everything in my power to ensure that creating and retaining good-paying jobs is part of any discussion that we have at the state level – and pledge to work with my colleagues to accomplish that this fall in Harrisburg.



Brookline
Year Round Farm Stand
 Seton Center 1900 Pioneer Ave
 Wednesday 11:00AM - 6:00PM



COMMUNITY CRIMES ZONE 6

This is the same report presented at the monthly Block Watch Meeting by **Commander Scott Schubert** and **Officer Kenneth Stewing**. If you don't currently receive the crime reports by email and you want to receive the emails, contact us. If you want more information on the incidents below, please contact us at 412-343-2859. Or, you can email us at mnp.grabowski@verizon.net, please put "Crime Report" in the subject line.

SEPTEMBER

CRIMES ZONE 6	Total	Brookline
Aggravated Assault	6	2
Robbery	7	0
Burglary	34	8
Theft	27	6
Theft from Vehicle	10	2
Stolen Vehicle	3	1



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JOANNE'S CORNER

Things that aren't here anymore - Part 32

Every once in a while I like to mention people who have lived most of their lives in Brookline and have been a real asset to the community. I'm sure most of my readers know **Millie and Ed Gill**. They have lived here since the thirties, went to our grade schools and high schools and were married after Ed came back from World War II. They raised five children here and have numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Millie at 87 and Ed at 93 have volunteered at **Resurrection Church** and also in the Brookline community. For years Millie walked up to **Mom's House** and helped with the babies. They both, as a team, drove and delivered **Meals on Wheels**. **Resurrection Church** could always depend on them for any of the fundraising prospects too numerous to mention. Ed heads the Bereavement Committee, visiting families of the parishioners. He also was active at Mercy Hospital, helping out wherever needed. Ed still volunteers at the Monday night **Bingo at Resurrection**. Our thanks go out to this couple for their many years of service to our Brookline Community.

The Brookline 50s picnic was another great success. About 225 people attended. Pretty good showing for the old folks!
-Joanne Fantoni

LAST MONTH'S QUESTION: Does anyone know the name of the celebrity who was at **Moore Recreation Center** in the early 1960s for a celebrity ballgame?

ANSWER: Phyllis Diller



DAYLIGHT
SAVINGS TIME ENDS
NOVEMBER 6
FALL BACK ONE
HOUR



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REPRESENTATIVE CHELSA WAGNER

A current hot topic in Harrisburg is legislative reapportionment, also often referred to as redistricting. I feel that this topic should also be a matter of concern to my constituents, as it will affect the way our communities are represented for the next decade.

Redistricting is a constitutionally mandated process that occurs every ten years in order to reflect population changes shown in the results of the U.S. Census. Unlike the redrawing of U.S. Congressional districts, which in Pennsylvania is a highly partisan process tightly controlled by the party in power, state House and Senate districts are drawn by a bipartisan commission. Despite this, there remain very valid criticisms of the process, primarily that it is skewed strongly toward the protection of incumbent legislators.

Due to loss of population, Allegheny County is expected have one fewer representative after the reapportionment is completed. My discussions with those involved in this process have led me to believe that the 22nd legislative district—which I have represented since 2007—will be greatly altered or simply moved to another part of the state.

I have been honored to represent a diverse district stretching from the North Side of the City of Pittsburgh, through the southern city neighborhoods, and into the South Hills suburbs. Despite the differences between the various communities, I am extremely proud of the spirit of cooperation many of our communities have shown and believe this has led to encouraging progress across neighborhood lines. A prime example is initiating cooperative ventures between community groups in Brookline and Beechview and funding a staff person to assist in these initiatives.

At a hearing before the Reapportionment Commission at Duquesne University on September 14, I advocated for keeping the 22nd District intact to the greatest extent possible, as did a number of my constituents. Despite this, it seems likely that beginning in January the communities that comprise the district may be represented by a number of different representatives. I and other testifiers specifically requested that the Commission seek to keep the 19th Ward contained in a single district, though it remains to be seen if it will heed this call.

The Reapportionment Commission must release a preliminary map of new districts by mid-November. This will be available on the Commission's Web site at www.redistricting.state.pa.us. For 30 days after the release of the proposed map, the public may submit comments on the Web site. The new districts are expected to be finalized near the beginning of the year.

I hope my constituents will be mindful of this process and take the opportunity to participate. Regardless of the outcome, I remain committed to building on the work we have done together over the past five years. Please feel free to contact me at my office at 412-343-2094 or repwagner@pahouse.net.



ELECTION DAY NOVEMBER 8

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Come Join Us

Lighting of the Christmas
Memory Tree

Refreshments, fun and music

Saturday, November 26, 2011

Time: 6:30 PM

Place: **Cannon Coffee**

802 Brookline Blvd

Sponsored by: Brookline Chamber of Commerce

For more information call 412-563-0759





CHRISTMAS MEMORY TREE



The **Brookline Chamber of Commerce Annual Memory Tree** will once again be lit in memory or honor of all loved ones. Each light you purchase will reflect the memory of a friend or loved one. The tree will be displayed in **Cannon Coffee's** window starting Saturday, November 26 during **Brookline's Christmas Lighting Social** 6:30 PM till 10:00 PM. Lights can be purchased by filling out the form below. All names will be posted on the tree.

Our annual budget for installation and maintenance is approximately \$1,500.00. We are asking for your continued generous support. All family donations of \$50 or more will be recognized during the Christmas Season. For more info contact Nathan at **Cannon Coffee** or Linda at **A-Boss Opticians**.

Thanking you in advance.

Your continued support to Brookline Chamber of Commerce is appreciated.

Christmas Lighting Committee

Please use this portion to mail your donation.

Make check payable to the **Brookline Chamber of Commerce** and mail to:

Brookline Chamber of Commerce, c/o 938 Brookline Blvd. Pittsburgh, PA 15226

If you choose to remember a loved one with a Memory Tree donation, please print clearly the name of the person(s) you want remembered. **The cost is \$10.00 per person.**

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

TOTAL MEMORY TREE DONATION \$ _____

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LIGHTING DONATION \$ _____

Family Name _____ (print clearly)



What's Going On At Pittsburgh West Liberty K-5?



As the crisp air starts to settle in, we are getting ready for some more fall festivities. First, we've had two new additions to our staff. A heart felt welcome to Mrs. Nicole Sheets-Bauman who is teaching Kindergarten and also to Mrs. Tammy Miles-Brown who is teaching 4th grade literacy. We would also like to wel-

come our new students from the South and the West End areas of the city. Our new parents are very pleased with the opportunity to send their children to a school that offers so much in teaching and learning and extracurricular activities. We had a wonderful turn out for our Open House and Parent Teacher Conferences. We enjoyed our PTO's bake sale and vendor show at Open House. Thanks to all who came and helped support their child's education. We also had a great time at our Halloween Parade and Fall Festivities. The PTO, led by Mrs. Heather Fulton, had a pumpkin patch for the entire school and every child received a pumpkin. The hay was donated for decorating the pumpkin patch. At the end of the festivities, the hay was given to the Western Pennsylvania Humane Society to help keep the dogs warm this winter. In addition to the fall festivities, we were also awarded the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society Community Greening Award 2011 for our outstanding outdoor classroom and vegetable/flower garden. You are welcome to stop by to see our amazing garden before the fall transformation takes place.

Speaking of PTO, our PTO will be hosting a Steeler Themed Bingo Night this month to help raise funds for our school's activities. Also, we are starting to prepare our dance team for the Ballroom Dancing "Colors of the Rainbow" Competition in December. Stay tuned for upcoming information on our dance team. We hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving and enjoys the holiday with their loved ones. Remember Pittsburgh West Liberty K-5 is the place "Where learners excel and character counts."

-Kathy Moran, Principal

-Teresa Grusong-Adams, First Grade Teacher

OCTOBER AT THE LIBRARY

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Pre-K Storytime

Tuesdays at 1:00 PM Children ages 3-5 and their caregivers

Hear stories, sing songs and learn rhymes together

After-school Craft Club

Wednesdays at 3:30 PM Kids in grades K-5

Relax after school by making a cool craft

Baby and Toddler Storytime

Thursdays at 11:00 AM Babies and toddlers up to age three and their caregivers

Hear stories, sing songs and try rhymes together

Strong Women, Strong Girls

Thursdays at 11:00 AM Girls in grades 3-5

Learn about women role models, journal and take part in other fun activities

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

ADULT PROGRAMS

Book Discussions

Adults 18 and older

Explore new ideas and perspectives through contemporary and classic fiction and nonfiction.

Monday Evening Book Club

First Monday of each month at 6:00 PM

Wednesday Afternoon Book Club

Second Wednesday of each month at 1:00 PM

Friends of Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh - Brookline

Saturday, November 5, 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Join an organization dedicated to supporting one of our community's greatest assets - your public Library!

Skills for Success: The Fontana Series - Career Building Workshop

Saturday, November 5 from 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

In between jobs or looking for new opportunities? Learn the ins and outs of online job applications, create powerful resumes and write effective cover letters during this free four-hour workshop.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED



No Name Coffee Shop
Enjoy Real Home Cooking on
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Wednesday Night

From 3:00PM to 7:00PM
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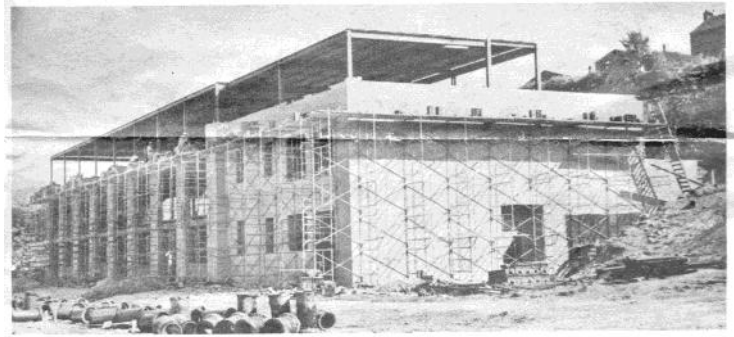


536 Brookline Boulevard 412-563-1813
Open Daily 7:00AM to 4:00PM



READER RESPONSE

We received some newspaper clippings and a 1958 personal telephone directory from *Shirley Gruzewski*. The directory was a promotion from **Brookline Savings and Trust Company**. We are going to reprint some of the ads and clippings over the next few months. “Enclosed is a bit of nostalgia which may bring back pleasant memories for some older Brookliners,” said Shirley. We hope you will agree. At right: From *The Brookline Journal*, September 21, 1961.



THE NEW SCHOOL AND TEMPORARY CHURCH of Our Lady of Loreto parish in Brookline is shown as it appears under construction today. Completion is scheduled for the spring. (Photo by Jardine's Photo Lab.)

BROOKLINE BOULEVARD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The project has been pushed back a few months to early spring of 2013 and should be completed by fall of 2013. Delays in getting an executed reimbursement agreement for final design as well as delays in getting a final decision concerning the right-of-way plan have set the project back a few months.

The Revised letting date (bid date) is September 6, 2012.

Improvements at the intersection near **MJ Automotive**: The team working on the Boulevard improvement project have met with the owner of **MJ Automotive** concerning this corner.

Traffic:

Approval for new traffic signal at Starkamp Street. (In progress)

Signing for new truck route from SB West Liberty Avenue onto Pioneer Avenue in counter clockwise loop. (In progress)

Utilities: A meeting with Equitable Gas, Verizon and Comcast is scheduled Oct. 7, 2011.

A meeting will be scheduled for February/March of 2012 to answer any questions and to introduce everyone to the new finished plans of Brookline Boulevard.

You can see the progress yourself by visiting the website Pittsburghfederalprojects.com

-Lois McCafferty

[Editor's Note: Mark your calendar for February/March 2012. This community has waited too long and Lois has worked too hard to allow this project to fall by the wayside.

Plan to attend and bring a neighbor. We need to show those in charge of this project that we are watching! Continue reading Councilwoman Natalia Rudiak's column below for more information.]



COUNCILWOMAN NATALIA RUDIAK

There have been a lot of rumors flying around in the last month or so about the Brookline Boulevard reconstruction, so let me take a minute to help explain what is happening with the project. First, the reconstruction is still happening and is still slated for a fall of 2013 finish, just as it has been for the last few years. Second, the budget has not changed for the project and there have been no changes to the recent plans that have been showed to the community over the last year or so.

The start date for the reconstruction has, however, been pushed back to early spring of 2013 instead of mid-to-late summer of 2012 as had previously been planned. This happened because PennDOT took an extended period of time to issue a decision related to the planned right-of-way changes for the Boulevard. They have since made their decision on this critical part of the project, however the extra time that they took forced the City to push the start date back.

But there is a silver lining to this change. While before the reconstruction would have spread into two construction seasons—summer of 2012 and spring/summer of 2013—now it will only effect one construction season—summer of 2013—thus disrupting businesses on the Boulevard for a much shorter period of time. This should make the project a much easier burden to bear for our great neighborhood businesses and for the community as a whole.

At this point there are only a few approvals needed before the project gets the final OK from the state. First, the City must approve the traffic signalization plans. Second, PennDOT will have to approve some changes being made to the Brookline Boulevard/Pioneer Avenue intersection. Third, and finally, the final design plan will have to get one last sign off from PennDOT. Once these three items are approved, the reconstruction will officially begin!

If you have any questions about this or any other issue, please don't hesitate to contact my office at (412) 255-2131.

THIS MONTH

November 1 Tuesday

Brookline Block Watch 7:00PM at **Magistrate Jim Motznik's** office 736 Brookline Blvd. **PLEASE NOTE: Due to Election Day the November meeting was changed.**

November 3 - 5 Thursday, Friday & Saturday

November 10 - 12 Thursday, Friday & Saturday
Throughline Theatre's production of *The Strikelight* at **Seton Center** 1900 Pioneer Ave. Thursday & Friday at 8:00PM and Saturday at 5:30PM. Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$10.00. Students (valid school ID) & Seniors (55 and older) \$8.00 "A character drama about art, food, obsession, and more precisely about two old men, lifelong friends, whose intentionally quiet and secluded lives are disrupted when the daughter of one of them brings home a man to meet her family. The stranger, who at first glance is a simple suitor, soon reveals himself to be more than he appears and furthermore seems to know about the past that these two men have spent their lives hiding from." <http://throughlinetheatre.org>

November 6 Sunday

Cub Scout Pack 601 Pancake Breakfast 9:00AM to 1:00PM in **Fr. Quinn Hall** at **Resurrection Church**. Adults \$5.00 Kids 3 to 10 \$3.00 Kids under 3 are free. Chinese Auction and Bake Sale.

November 14 Monday

Chamber of Commerce 5:45PM at **Carnegie Library** 708 Brookline Blvd.

November 21 Monday


South Pittsburgh Development Corp. 7:00PM at **Brookline Blvd. United Presbyterian Church** 1036 Brookline Blvd.

November 26 Saturday


Lighting of the Christmas Memory Tree 6:30PM at **Cannon Coffee** 802 Brookline Blvd. Refreshments, fun and music. Sponsored by **Brookline Chamber of Commerce**

November 28 Monday

Brookline Area Community Council 7:30PM at **St. Mark's Church** corner of Brookline Blvd. & Glenarm Ave.



**Christianpalooza 2011 Benefit
for Make a Wish Foundation**



The first annual Christianpalooza Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, November 5 from 4pm - 9pm in **Fr. Quinn Hall at Resurrection Church**. The prices are \$5 for adults, \$3 for children ages 2 -10 and children under 2 free. This price includes food, beverages, and activities for the children. There will also be a Chinese auction and 50/50. All proceeds will be donated to the Make A Wish Foundation in memory of Christian Connelly.

BROOKLINE RECREATION CENTER

Weight Room and Fitness Center

Our new FREE weight room and fitness center includes an assortment of weight-lifting and cardio workout equipment. Ages 16-up are welcome. 16-17 year olds must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Hours: Mon-Fri 1:15-8:45pm; Sat 10:15am-3:45pm. Registration Required.

Boxing Fundamentals

Wednesday nights from 6:00-8:00pm. All participants must supply their own hand wraps and work-out clothing. This program is affiliated with the Pittsburgh Boxing Club. If you wish to join the club for further training, the cost is \$50/year. Fee is paid to the club. Ages 8-up are welcome.

Futsal Fundamentals

Thursdays from 6:00-8:00pm. Futsal is a new and fast-growing variant of indoor soccer. Learn Futsal fundamentals with our trained instructor. Boys and Girls ages 7-18 welcome. FREE.

Yoga

Tuesdays from 6:15-7:30pm. Trained Instructor. Ongoing enrollment. Ages 18-over. Cost: \$50 per six-week session. Fee paid to instructor. Pro-rated for new enrollees.

Kindersports/Storytime

Wednesdays from 11:00-12:30pm. Ages 0-5 welcome. FREE.

Martial Arts

Mondays from 6:00-8:45pm. Boys and Girls ages 10-up. Learn Tae Kwon Do fundamentals. Trained Instructor. Cost: \$15/year.

Body Sculpting

Mondays and Thursdays from 6:15-7:30pm. Trained Instructor. Ongoing enrollment. Ages 18-over. Cost: \$30 per five-week session. Fee paid to the instructor. Pro-rated for new enrollees.

Call the center for more information 412-571-3222.

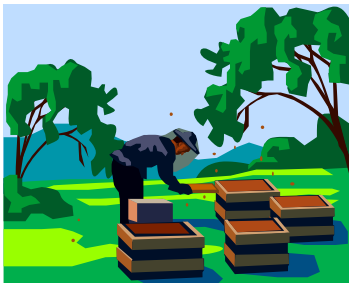




PARTY CAKE SHOP

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BURGH BEES

Stephan Repasky of Burgh Bees did a presentation called “Bee Curious” Saturday, October 15 at **Cannon Coffee**. The purpose was to allow Brookliners to get familiar with the process of beekeeping and its importance to the environment. Without bees in this country, there would be no tomatoes, apples, peaches, almonds...and the list goes on and on.

The discussion was highlighted with props to show how a beehive is constructed and the function of the several different types of bees that are needed to have a functional hive. It was pointed out that “honey bees” are very docile (unlike wasps, yellow jackets, hornets, etc.), and they only sting when stepped on or if you are invading their hive. Beekeepers know how to read the mood of the bees around a hive when they extract honey, the rest of us just get intimidated by the sight of hundreds of bees in the air.

Some other topics were; the differences in sweetness, color and beneficial antioxidants of the honey when it is extracted in spring, summer and fall. Did you know the medical field is using honey to help with those suffering from burns, allergies and arthritis? Did you know that bee hives have been disappearing in the US for a number of years due to an unexplained phenomenon? Did you know that some lawn care products used by homeowners and lawn care providers can destroy a hive?

Burgh Bees, a non-profit corporation, is staffed with volunteers who are mostly beekeepers. They strive to make the public and the government aware of the plight of the honey bees in this country. They continue to, along with other nationwide organizations, raise money to research the problem of disappearing hives. And they also, happily, introduce and train new beekeepers.

Keep your eyes peeled, right here in **The Brookline** for an announcement of a neighborhood meeting to discuss a Bee Apiary in Brookline.



-Bob Beiler



TRASH WALKING

Want to take a walk with us? Here’s the plan. We will meet every Sunday afternoon at 2:00PM at **Cannon Coffee**. Everyone should bring work gloves. If you have a grabber, bring that too. Depending on the number of participants, we will walk the Boulevard or venture onto the side streets. For an hour or so we will walk, talk and pick up trash. After our trash walk, we will return to **Cannon Coffee** for a bit of socializing. There are benefits galore in this weekly event. First, we will be removing litter from our community. Then there’s the walking, bending and stretching exercise. You can meet new people, and just getting out of the house can improve your mood. So mark your calendars for Sunday, November 6 at 2:00PM. Don’t worry you won’t miss the Steeler game. That week the game starts at 8:20PM! Bundle up. Come on out. Walk with us. Then, join us for hot coffee, hot tea, hot cocoa, or have you tried **Cannon Coffee’s S’more Mocha**?



-The Editor

Call for Volunteers

- **FOREVER HOME BEAGLE RESCUE** call 412-304-4034 or BeagleHQ@msn.com Foster homes needed as well as donations of dog food, blankets and bath towels.
- **DOGIPOT MAINTENANCE** call Lisa at 412-343-1319
- **MEALS ON WHEELS** sponsored by **St. Mark’s Lutheran Church** call 412-343-8144
- **MEALS ON WHEELS** sponsored by **Lutheran Service Society** call 412-366-9490
- **SENIOR VAN TRANSPORTATION** call 412-344-4222
- **BROOKLINE CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY** call **Pat Erny** 412-344-8451
- **CLOTHES CLOSET MINISTRY** call **Brookline United Presbyterian Church** at 412-531-0590

Are you unable to volunteer your time right now? You can still help many of these organizations. **Meals on Wheels** accepts cash and donations of cookies, desserts and bread. Add a grocery store gift card to your shopping cart and send it to the **Brookline Christian Food Pantry, c/o Pat Erny, 2918 Pioneer Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15226-2038**

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

-Margaret Mead



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OPEN MIC SERIES

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PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING RECAP

A City-Wide Public Safety Meeting was held at St. Pamphilus Church in Beechview on September 1. About 150 residents, public safety officials, and Council Members came out to hear presentations about combating graffiti and the hunting laws in the City.

In case you missed it, here are some handy facts!

Grffiti—The **Pittsburgh Police Department** has a 4-officer Graffiti Taskforce that focuses solely on tracking taggers, building cases, and sending graffiti “artists” to jail. They keep a database of photos, which helps them match taggers with tags and quantify damages. Your role in the fight against graffiti is just as integral as the officers’. All graffiti must be reported in a timely manner to your local police zone. After reporting the graffiti, make sure that you or an officer takes a photo of the tag before removing the graffiti. The graffiti should be removed as soon as possible after the pictures are taken. Assistance with graffiti removal is available through Graffiti Busters (412-255-2872). The Graffiti Task Force advises residents to keep dark areas lit, keep an eye out, and make sure to report any new graffiti tags as soon as possible. You can reach the Graffiti Task Force at 412-323-7818 or 412-323-7800.

Grffiti on mailboxes can only be removed by Postal Service maintenance people. Carrick’s own Missy Rosenfeld, who heads up the organization Totally Against Graffiti (TAG), developed a partnership with Postmaster Rocco D’Angelo to address this specific graffiti issue. If you see a mailbox that is tagged with graffiti, or in need of repair, call 412-359-7845

Hunting in City Greenways—Hunting on City-owned greenways is prohibited. If you notice anyone hunting in a greenway near your home, please call 9-1-1. The City regularly posts “No Hunting” signs on trees throughout the greenways, but the signs are often removed or shot down. Please call our office if you notice that the “No Hunting” signs in your greenway are missing 412-255-2131.

—Councilwoman Natalia Rudiak

SENSATIONAL BROOKLINE GIRLS SOFTBALL TEAM



Team members: First row left to right: Batgirl **Kiara Cerminara**, **Farrah Love**, **Emma Ely**, **Kylee Cerminara**, **Cameryn Davis**, **Casey Evans**. Second row left to right: **Mia Ely**, **Zoe Malone**, **Vanessa Hudson**, **Caitlyn Guerriero**, **Mikaela Vogel**, **Pam Tomassi**. Third row left to right: Coaches **Herb Davis**, **Sean Malone**, Head Coach **Dave Ely**, Coaches **Greg Guerriero**, **Ralph Cerminara**. Photo provided by *Dave Ely*

The girls' softball team sponsored by Rita's Italian Ice went undefeated this season with 19 wins and 0 losses. After talking to Head Coach **Dave Ely**, I contacted **Valerie Cerminara** for a parent's view. Her response was better than anything I would have written and supported everything Coach Ely told me.

"I find it extremely amazing how willing seven, eight and nine-year-old girls are to listen and learn when given good direction and held to reasonable expectations in a positive and nurturing environment. This team is truly unbelievable. You honestly had to see it for yourself to believe it. When they win, they are so gracious about it; you would never know they won. These girls have such a strong bond with one another that it is as if they were all brought up together. It is just breath taking to watch such a sight. The girls are together not only on the field and at practice, but they get together off the field as well. They just enjoy being with one another.

I credit the coaching staff for how great these girls are. These men are so patient and so willing to go the extra mile for all of these girls. When the girls are on the field you cannot tell who belongs to whom because they treat each girl the same. There is no favoritism. They coach these girls; they put every effort into making these girls awesome players. I personally can say that my daughter could not hold a bat let alone hit a ball unless she used the tee when she first started. Now she is cracking the ball and never hits off of the tee. Actually none of our girls hit off of the tee and that is quite an accomplishment. I am so grateful to be a part of this team. I have never been involved in a sport where everyone coaches, parents and children all get along. It is as if we are one big happy family. I could go on and on, but I'll stop there."

If this is a team you want your daughter to join, signups are held in February at Moore Park. Parents are required to volunteer at the concession stand which supports the team.

-Valerie Cerminara
-Pamela Grabowski

Mayor Ravenstahl's Monthly Message for November

Dear Neighbors,

I'm pleased to announce that recently we have welcomed two new staff members to work in my Youth Policy Department: Olivia Benson as Youth Policy Manager, and Nick Martini as Deputy Youth Policy Manager. In their new roles, Olivia and Nick will continue to work on youth initiatives throughout the city while expanding and improving upon ways to attract and retain young people in Pittsburgh. The Youth Policy Department, in conjunction with our schools and community organizations, also works to ensure our students are 'Promise Ready' and, upon graduation from high school, have the opportunity to receive up to \$40,000 for college studies.

This year, I have tasked Olivia and Nick to develop ways to better serve youth and young families in the City of Pittsburgh. In addition to working with the Mayor's Youth Council, the appointed members of the Propel Pittsburgh Commission and the Mayor's Youth Commission, the Youth Policy Department has set forth a series of goals and objectives to:

- Reduce youth and gang violence by developing leadership opportunities for young people in our communities.
- Partner with our schools and nonprofit organizations to maximize information about education and youth resources in Pittsburgh.
- Encourage young people to explore opportunities for innovation, home ownership and small business development.
- Retain young adults in Pittsburgh by highlighting the City's growth, educational and advancement opportunities.

I am pleased to have two new members in our Youth Policy Department, and I would like to thank all of you for welcoming Olivia and Nick. I hope that you will feel free to contact them with your ideas and suggestions for ways to continue to make Pittsburgh 'America's Most Livable City.'

If you have any questions, or would like to learn more about Youth Policy in our City, please call 412-255-2258 or email Olivia.Benson@city.pittsburgh.pa.us or Nicholas.Martini@city.pittsburgh.pa.us

Sincerely,

Luke Ravenstahl
Mayor, City of Pittsburgh

2011 PITTSBURGH SUPER PLUNGE FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS OF PENNSYLVANIA

Hello,

My name is Commander Scott Schubert of the City of Pittsburgh Bureau of Police. As a co-chair of the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics I'm committed to raising awareness and funds for the wonderful and amazing athletes who participate in Special Olympics.

I need your help! As a Super Plunger, I've agreed to raise a minimum of \$3,500 for Special Olympics and jump into the river every hour for 24 hours straight. Giving up 24 hours of my life and jumping into the cold water 24 times is well worth it when I think of the commitment, determination and joy the amazing athletes feel when they participate in various Special Olympic events. I'm confident their smiles will keep me warm on that cold December day.

Any assistance or support you can provide is greatly appreciated. Please go to www.plungepa.org and click Sponsor Super Plunger located under the Pittsburgh Plunge. This will redirect sponsors to the Super Plunge page. Click on my name or type my name.

I'm thrilled to inform all of my donors that a kind and generous individual who wishes to remain anonymous pledged to match all of my donations dollar for dollar.



Friday, December 9th through Saturday, December 10th noon to noon!
Location: North Shore at PNC Park.

What is the Super Plunge? Over a 24 hour period, Super Plungers will take 24 icy dips (once every hour) into a body of frigid water. All Super plungers will live at the Super Plunge site during this intense, fun and wild round-the-clock adventure.

How will our Super Plungers survive? Don't worry. We'll take good care of them. We'll feed them, keep them comfortable & warm and keep them entertained. We promise that it will be a fun adventure.

Why would anyone want to be a Super Plunger? We think it's obvious. Super Plungers are extreme. Elite. They are people that want to be a part of something special. They also want to help Special Olympics of Pennsylvania.



Zone Six / Special Deployment Division 312 S. Main Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15220
Phone (412) 937-3051 Fax (412) 937-3020